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January 1st, 1876.

Centennial Demonstration,

AUBURN, N. Y.

Deposited in Archives by
Benj. F. Hall

Auburn, N.Y.
3/6

January 1st, 1876.

CENTENNIAL DEMONSTRATION,

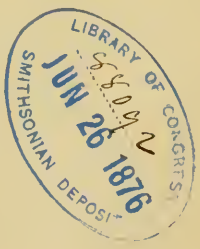
AT AUBURN, N. Y.

A REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS,

INCLUDING THE SALUTES AND FLAG RAISING, THE NAMES AND AGES OF THE COMMITTEE, OFFICERS, CLERGY AND SPEAKER,

THE REMARKS OF PRESIDENT MYERS,
AND
THE ADDRESS OF JUDGE HALL.

"Thy Stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in Heaven."



AUBURN:
W. J. MOSES' PUBLISHING HOUSE, 16 CLARK STREET.
1876.

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Correspondence.

Auburn, December 6, 1875.

Hon Benj. F. Hall:

Dear Sir:—As the public colonial proceedings of the year 1776 which resulted in national independence were inaugurated on New Year's day, by the hoisting of a continental flag at the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief of the army, at Cambridge, it seems to the undersigned, your neighbors, that the centenary of that event ought to be in some way commemorated in Auburn. They are able to think of no more appropriate way than to have it commemorated by religious solemnities and an address at one of our public halls or churches, on New Year's day or evening, as may hereafter be the most convenient.

In the belief that their action will be concurred in by their neighbors generally, they take the liberty of inviting you to deliver the address, and of asking you to signify your acceptance or declension at an early day.

Yours Respectfully,

Horace T. Cook,	Jno. B. Richardson,	Terance J. Kennedy,
E. E. Marvine,	Isaac S. Allen,	M. S. Myers,
C. W. Pomroy,	A. V. M. Suydam,	Jno. S. Brown,
Charles Hawley,	S. W. Boardman,	William Searls,
Hugh Hughes,	D. M. Dunning,	John Page,
Joseph D. Otis,	Chas. G. Briggs,	C. S. Burtis,
John S. Clary,	A. H. Goss,	S. L. Bradley,
E. L. Skinner,	H. T. Dickinson,	H. P. Green,
James A. Clary,	W. E. Webster,	Martin J. Webster,
Wm. B. Woodin,	Adelbert R. Hoyt,	E. B. Tuttle,
A. J. Sanders,	E. S. Ongley,	Chas. A. Smith,
I. R. Pearson,	A. G. Bulkley,	N. P. Clarke,
A. A. Sabin,	H. B. Gilbert,	Frederick Allen,
A. W. Hollister,	N. B. S. Eldred,	G. W. Tripp,
Wm. T. Graves,	Geo. W. Bacon,	James E. Tyler,
S. H. Morris,	J. B. Gaylord,	Jno. E. Leonard,
L. C. Mann,	C. W. Edwards,	F. M. Coffin,
H. Richardson,	W. H. Carpenter,	Chas. S. Goss.

Messrs. Horace T. Cook and others :

GENTLEMEN :—Your note of the 6th instant reached me yesterday. The maintenance of the siege of Boston without gunpowder, within musket shot of a formidable enemy, for six consecutive months prior to the commencement of 1776, was and is confessedly without a parallel in military history; and the ultimate escape of General Washington and his rustic soldiery from that imminent peril was a marvelous deliverance. Nothing in our history ever approximated it, except our marvelous escape from the perils of the winter of 1861. The men who went to their rescue, and were mustered into the continental service on the first day of January, 1776, at Cambridge, saved the army of Washington, and probably the cause itself, from discomfiture and disgrace. The formal dedication of the flag on that day was both a demonstration of gratitude for their deliverance, and an artifice of war.

As it was dedicated with religious services and an address, it is certainly proper to commemorate the event in a similar manner. It was an event of too much importance in its consequences to the country and to mankind, to be allowed to be forgotten by a people who have free institutions to preserve and a God to adore. I heartily concur with such of my neighbors as think its centenary ought to be observed in Auburn. If they desire me to do so, I will endeavor to contribute to the exercises.

Yours respectfully,

AUBURN, N. Y., DEC. 8, 1875. BENJ. F. HALL.

Committee of Arrangements,

Col.	TERANCE J. KENNEDY,	Age 55.
Col.	JOHN B. RICHARDSON,	" 55.
Col.	THADDEUS B. BARBER,	" 50.
Capt.	JOHN E. LEONARD,	" 48.
Capt.	HUGH HUGHES,	" 57.
Sh'ff	ANDREW J. SANDERS,	" 44.
Capt.	JOHN CHOATE,	" 51.
Treas.	HORACE T. COOK,	" 53.
C. E.	JOSEPH H. MORRIS,	" 33.
Capt.	GEORGE W. BACON,	" 52.
P. C.	JOHN PAGE,	" 35.
Com.	WILLIAM E. WEBSTER,	" 32.
P. C.	ROBERT R. GARDNER,	" 35.
Prof.	E. P. SPRAGUE,	" 38.

This Committee initiated and conducted the ceremony, and defrayed its expenses.

Officers of the Day.

President,

MICHAEL S. MYERS, Age 74.

Vice-Presidents,

OLIVER S. TAYLOR,	Age 92	AMOS T. CARPENTER,	Age 87
NATHAN OSBORN,	" 86	JAMES TIBBLES,	" 85
JOSEPH CHOATE,	" 85	THOMAS M. SKINNER,	" 84
NATHANIEL WILLIAMS,	" 83	LYMAN SOULE,	" 82
JOSEPH BARNES,	" 82	ROBERT JENKINS,	" 81
DANIEL HEWSON,	" 79	RICHARD STEEL,	" 80
MILO WEBSTER,	" 77	TRUMAN J. McMASTER,	" 78
SYLVESTER WILLARD,	" 76	JOHN OLMSTED,	" 76
WILLIAM LINDSLEY,	" 76	JOSIAH BARBER,	" 75
ELISHA W. SHELDON,	" 75	ANDREW V. M. SUYDAM,	" 75
SILAS W. ARNETT,	" 74	CHARLES STANDART,	" 73
HORATIO ROBINSON, Sen.,	" 72	WILLIAM C. VAN VECHTEN,	" 72
THERON GREEN,	" 72	ISAAC S. ALLEN,	" 72
EDWARD E. MARVINE,	" 72	DAVID WRIGHT,	" 69
CHRISTOPHER MORGAN,	" 67	ELMORE P. ROSS,	" 67
NELSON BEARDSLEY,	" 67	CHARLES W. POMROY,	" 67

Aggregate ages of President and Vice-Presidents, 2531 years. Average, 77.

Secretaries,

H. LAURENS STORKE, Age 32. HENRY D. PECK, Age 24.

Clergy,

Rev. EDMOND B. TUTTLE, Age 60. Rev. WILLIAM SEARLS, Age 48.

Speaker,

BENJAMIN F. HALL, Age 62.

Director of Music,

Professor E. P. SPRAGUE, Age 38.

Marshals,

ANDREW J. SANDERS, Age 44. JOHN E. LEONARD, Age 48.

JOSEPH H. MORRIS, Age 32.

THE CENTENARY OF THE AMERICAN FLAG.

HOW IT WAS COMMEMORATED.

Pursuant to the recommendation of the Common Council. the city bells, factory bells, and every other sort and description of bells, which could tinkle or sound, were tasked to their utmost tensity the very first minute of the very first hour of the morning of this centennial year, and the merry chimes of St. Peter's rang out the following programme:

THE OLD YEAR.	THE NEW YEAR.
1. Changes on Eight Bells.	5. Hail Columbia.
2. Those Evening Bells.	6. Yankee Doodle.
3. The Last Rose of Summer.	7. America.
4. Auld Lang Syne.	8. Watchman, tell us of the night.

At the same time there was a *feu de joie* by a detail from Seward Post G. A R., under command of Lieut. Wm. E. Webster, and consisting of Comrades Martin Webster, Chas. H. Shapley, Ed. Havens, Ed. Andelfinger, Lorenzo Daniels, and Fred. Cossum, who fired a salute of thirty-six guns at the rate of three rounds per minute, which shows that the old battery men have not yet "got out of practice." During the firing, the steam whistles of Messrs. E. D. Clapp & Co. put in their chorus, their fires having been kept up for that purpose; and that very minute the doors of XMT Hose Co. flew open, and its members, with a number of "Fours," and other patriotic citizens, issued therefrom with their carriage—which had been fitted up for the occasion with strings of sleigh-bells attached to every available part of the apparatus, as well as to the drag

ropes, and with the bell of a Southern Central locomotive suspended from the rear axle—and with a good sized dinner bell in each man's hand, which added their clangor to the general din, they moved off, headed by a band of music. Altogether the firing and banging, and the jingling and whistling, and the crackling and the screeching, outdid anything which old John Adams, or any of his compatriots, ever dreamed of. If it did not "make Rome howl," it made every dog in Auburn howl, and many things in Auburn besides dogs. They embellished the revolutionary prediction of anniversary jubilations with all the modern improvements and latter day contrivances.

The crowds assembled on the streets reinforced the procession, which took its route through South and Logan to Elizabeth, and thence back through William, Genesee, Washington, Clark, State, Garden, Franklin and Fulton streets to East Genesee and back to headquarters, dispersing not until the first gray streaks of daybreak made their appearance. For an impromptu demonstration in commemoration of the centennial, it was a very creditable affair to the originators and projectors, and doubtless *did* everlastingly commemorate the occasion in more minds than one.

From the hour of seven until eight o'clock in the morning the church and factory bells again rang a peal in compliance with the invitation of the Common Council. From that time forward all was quiet on the Potomac until half past ten, when an immense concourse of people assembled in and in front of the Court House, to witness the exercises arranged for commemorating the dedication of the American flag, one hundred years ago.

EXERCISES IN THE COURT HOUSE.

The formal exercises of the day took place in and in front of the Court House. The ceremonies in the interior, consisting of speech-making, singing, devotional exercises, &c., took place on a platform erected over the Judges' bench and Clerk's desk, embellished by ornamental tributes on the south wall of the room by various local organizations. Right here we

desire to say that Sheriff Sanders is entitled to great credit for the admirable manner in which he carried out the wishes of the committee of arrangements in regard to the staging, fixtures, &c.

THE DECORATIONS.

At the left, in an evergreen shield and in neat evergreen lettering, were the words, "Auburn Fire Department." The shield was surmounted by a regular fireman's hat, which had doubtless seen service. Pipes, trumpets, and other firemanic symbols surrounded the device, while at the top an American flag was tastefully arranged. Chief Engineer Joe Morris was the artist, we understand.

At the right, the words "Seward Post G. A. R. No. 37," enclosed in an evergreen frame, stood out prominently. The Stars and Stripes, tastefully looped up, also decorated the tablet. A portrait of the illustrious Seward adorned the centre, a painting of the gallant Sheridan's ride was seen at the top, while on the floor of the stage stacked muskets and a number of revolutionary swords were observed.

In the centre, in a large square evergreen frame, the legend "Post C. W. Crocker, No. 45 G. A. R., Tribute to the Flag," loomed up conspicuously. Surmounting the frame and enshrined in the flag he loved so well, was an excellent portrait of the immortal Washington, and in the center was a picture of Charles W. Crocker, in whose honor the Post was named. Muskets and a number of antique swords stood on the floor beneath the device, and the whole presented a very beautiful and artistic appearance, reflecting great credit on the decorator, Capt. George W. Bacon.

The face of the stage was wholly concealed by flags, which hung in graceful folds, and a lithograph of the "Battle of Gettysburg" rested in the centre.

ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING.

At the hour of 10:30 precisely, the meeting in the Court House was called to order by Col. Terance J. Kennedy, who

announced the arrival of the hour appointed for the opening of the meeting, and moved its immediate organization by the election of the officers selected by the Committee.

The motion being unanimously adopted, Hon. Michael S. Myers, President of the day, took the chair, amid great applause, and invited the Vice-Presidents named in the papers to take seats upon the platform.

In compliance with the invitation, the aged procession filed upon the stage, many of the venerables bending under the weight of years, and experiencing considerable difficulty in mounting the steps. Following is the list of

THE VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Oliver S. Taylor, Amos T. Carpenter, Nathan Osborn, James Tibbles, Joseph Choate, Thomas M. Skinner, Lyman Soule, Nathaniel Williams, Joseph Barnes, Robert Jenkins, Richard Steel, Daniel Hewson, Truman J. McMaster, Milo Webster, Sylvester Willard, John Olmsted, Josiah Barber, Elisha W. Sheldon, Silas W. Arnett, William Lindsley, Andrew V. M. Suydam, Charles Standart, Horatio Robinson, Theron Green, Elmore P. Ross, William C. Van Vechten, Edward E. Marvine, Isaac S. Allen, David Wright, Nelson Beardsley, Christopher Morgan and Charles W. Pomroy.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

FELLOW CITIZENS:—I heartily thank you for the proof of your confidence and respect which you have shown, in calling me to preside at this novel and interesting gathering. My duties in the position in which you have placed me are few and simple, and it is not my purpose to take up your time by extended remarks on historic details. That duty has devolved upon another, who will do the subject full and ample justice. It is enough for me to state that our centennial as a nation is upon us, and that we, the People of the United

States of America, are a united, free, and independent people, a powerful republic, commanding the respect of the civilized world, and proclaiming liberty and freedom to all its citizens. Its advent has been hailed by the people with patriotic ardor, by a demonstration that brings to us a Fourth of July sensation, and renews our pledge to the support of the Stars and Stripes, one hundred years ago dedicated by our forefathers to the cause of Freedom.

It is imputed to a British statesman to have said, after the Revolution had succeeded, and our Independence was established, "Let them have their freedom; let them maintain their republic. One hundred years hence the world will be talking of the good old monarchy of America." He was a false prophet. The Flag still floats over a free republic, sustained by freemen who unite in proclaiming,

"Forever float that standard sheet!
Where breathes the foe but falls before us,
With Freedom's soil beneath our feet,
And Freedom's banner streaming o'er us?"

SECRETARIES.

On motion of Col. Kennedy, Messrs. H. Laurens Storke and Henry D. Peck were appointed Secretaries of the meeting.

PATRIOTIC SONG.

The quartette, consisting of Messrs. H. B. Lindsley, R. C. Grant, W. A. Holmes and Prof. E. P. Sprague, then rendered excellently the song commencing:

"We love the heroes of our land,
Whose names shall live in story,
The wise of heart, the strong of hand,
Whose life and death was glory."

THE PRAYER.

Rev. Wm. Searls then addressed the Throne of Grace in a fervent, impressive, and eminently appropriate prayer.

"UNION AND LIBERTY"

was then spiritedly sung by the quartette, accompanied on the organ by Prof. Sprague:

"Flag of the heroes who left us their glory,
Borne through their battle-fields' thunder and flame,
Blazoned in song and illumined in story,
Wave o'er us all who inherit their fame."

SPEAKER OF THE DAY.

President Myers then introduced the speaker of the day, who proceeded to address the large meeting. His address was an able and masterly contribution to history, showing careful and intelligent research, and interested the assemblage intensely. It was both retrospective and prospective in character, its historical portions accurate and comprehensive, its deductions for the future logical and conclusive, and its delivery eloquent and impressive. At the eloquent recital of the patriotic events enumerated in the address, and at its conclusion, the speaker was enthusiastically applauded. [*Ed. Advertiser.*]

JUDGE HALL'S ADDRESS.

Addressing the President and Vice Presidents, he said:

Mr. President: I avail myself of this, my earliest opportunity, to congratulate you, sir, and the two and thirty venerable and honorable neighbors like yourself, who grace this platform with their presence, that you and they are alive and in comfortable health, to see and enjoy the light of this centennial day. I also venture to take the liberty in this presence to felicitate myself for the enjoyment of the same blessing, and for this

appointed privilege of exchanging congratulations. It affords me great pleasure to salute you at this time with my heartiest words of cheer, and [turning to the audience]

Fellow Citizens and Neighbors: I also congratulate you, and each and every one of you, and very especially those of you who were so thoughtful as to appoint these exercises, and embellish this demonstration in our beautiful and beloved Auburn, as I have the seniors upon this platform, and earnestly pray for you and yours, a happy New Year. May you live long and prosper.

We have assembled this morning to commemorate, in a modest way, and to commend our children and our children's children to commemorate, an event in our national life which deserves to go down with our choicest family traditions to the end of time—the organization of the army of the Revolution and the simultaneous inauguration of the continental flag. We commemorate and commend the commemoration of that event, not so much, if at all, because of the intrinsic beauty of the standard in its present form and condition, although that is quite sufficient to command admiration, but because it is the appointed, honored and world-renowned symbol of our advanced civilization in the condition of civil and religious freedom. Having consented to act as your guide through the mists of the past century, you will now proceed to habit yourselves for the trip—to put on your ancestor's shoes that you may be able to go back with me to old Cambridge and stand awhile precisely where some of them stood one hundred years ago. Although it may seem to you to

be a great distance by the milestones of persons, or of families, or even of generations, it is nevertheless but a step by the milestones of nations. In the familiar fashion of the guides at Niagara, Yosemite, Mont Blanc and Vesuvius, I will endeavor to acquaint and to antiquate you a little as we proceed. I will endeavor to set the hands on the dial of time back to where they stood one hundred years ago, that you may have a preparatory glimpse of the situation of the country and the revolutionary cause, before you are introduced to the inauguration itself.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

One hundred years ago all North America belonged, by possession under color of title, to Great Britain and Spain.

One hundred years ago 750,530 square miles of it lying eastward of the Mississippi, between the St. Croix and the St. John, inhabited by upwards of 2,000,000 of civilized people, belonged to the dominion of Great Britain.

One hundred years ago those pioneer inhabitants were organized into thirteen separate communities, under as many separate grants of the British crown.

One hundred years ago those thirteen separate communities were provided with twelve royal governors, namely: The Colony of Massachusetts Bay, with Major General Thomas Gage; the Colony of New Hampshire, with Baronet Sir John Wentworth; the Colony of Connecticut, with Ex-Chief Justice Jonathan Trumbull; the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, with Ex-Lieutenant Governor Nicholas Cooke; the Colony of New York, with Ex-Lieutenant

Governor William Tryon; the Colony of the Jerseys, with Counsellor William Franklin, son of the philosopher, Benjamin Franklin; the Colonies of Pennsylvania and Delaware, with Mr. John Penn, grandson of the founder, William Penn; the Colony of Maryland, with a Sir Robert Eden, brother of Lord Aukland; the Colony of Virginia, with John Murray, Earl of Dunmore; the Colony of North Carolina, with Counsellor Josiah Martin; the Colony of South Carolina, with Lord William Campbell, son of the Duke of Argyle; and the Colony of Georgia, with Baronet Sir James Wright, who were charged, among other things, with the collection and transmission of certain tribute money, levied upon the colonies by the British Parliament, in conformity with the financial policy of premier Lord Frederic North.*

One hundred years ago the Legislatures of all the colonies had declined to levy that tribute money, and on account of such declension, the Legislatures of Massachusetts Bay and Virginia had been ordered by their respective royal governors to dissolve.

One hundred years ago the inhabitants of the four New England colonies, inclusive of the royal governors

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* 1. Governor Gage was born in 1720; entered the army and came to America with Lord Amherst, and succeeded him in the command of the British forces in 1774, and was made civil as well as military Governor of Massachusetts Bay. Failing to reduce the revolutionists of Massachusetts to obedience, he was superseded by Sir William Howe in October, 1775; recalled in disgrace, and died under that cloud upon his reputation April 2d, 1787, in the 68th year of his age.—2. Governor Wentworth was born in 1738; was knighted and made Governor of New Hampshire in 1765; surrendered his commission when the war broke out, and removed to Halifax, where he died in 1820, in the 82d year of his age.—3. Governor Trumbull was born in Lebanon, Conn., 1710; commenced public life as a Presbyterian minister; subsequently studied law and became Chief Justice; was appointed Governor in 1769, enjoyed the confidence of Washington, who delighted to refer to him as "Brother Jonathan," and died at home, greatly lamented, Aug. 17, 1785, in the 76th year of his age.—4. Governor Cooke was born in Providence in 1717; was Deputy Governor only at the time of the Concord affair; was, like his neighbor, Gov. Trumbull, a

of Connecticut and Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, and a portion of the inhabitants of the other colonies, were in the incipient stages of armed resistance to that parliamentary exaction; and the militiamen of the former had met the British *posse comitatus* at Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill, and had retaliated by taking Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Chamblee and Montreal, and were then actually besieging the forces under Generals Howe and Carlton at Boston and Quebec.

One hundred years ago the troops of General Richard Montgomery were burying under the snows of Canada the remains of their intrepid commander, who fell the day before, in his assault on Quebec; and the Earl of Dunmore was punishing the Virginians for their refusal to levy the tribute money, by burning the city of Norfolk.

One hundred years ago all the domain of New York, west of Herkimer, inclusive of our city and county, with the exception of small settlements about Cherry Valley and the old forts at Oswego and Niagara, was a

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revolutionist from the commencement of hostilities; was made Governor in October, 1775, and died Sept. 14, 1782, greatly lamented, in the 66th year of his age — 5. GOVERNOR TRYON was born in Dublin in 1718; came to America in 1764, as Lieutenant Governor of North Carolina, and was advanced to the Governorship in 1771, and the same year transferred to New York; was an intense loyalist, and after the war broke out became a Major General; returned to England after the surrender of Cornwallis, and was made a Lieutenant General, and died in that office, greatly detested by his soldiery, February 27, 1788, in the 70th year of his age.—6. GOVERNOR FRANKLIN was born in Philadelphia in 1730; served in the French war as a militia captain; was appointed Governor of the Jerseys in 1762; was a tory of the first water, and deposed in July, 1776, and sent to the tory prison in Connecticut; went to England after the war, and obtained a small pension for his martyrdom, and died there November 17, 1813, in the 84th year of his age.— 7. GOVERNOR PENN was born in Philadelphia in 1725; was Governor by appointment of the Crown from 1763 to '71, and from 1773 to '76; was imprisoned by the revolutionists at Fredericksburgh, Va., to the end of the war, and his estate confiscated for his toryism; and died in February, 1795, in the 71st year of his age.— 8. GOVERNOR EDEN was born in Dublin in 1732; was kinsman of the Calverts, and brother of Lord Aukland; was appointed Governor in 1772; was an arrant tory, and banished from the colony by the Committee of Safety in the summer of

howling wilderness; but the settlers in the valleys of the Hudson and Mohawk had superseded Governor Tryon with a Committee of Safety.

One hundred years ago Governor Gage, who had been recalled from Massachusetts for his failure to put down the rebellion, was under examination at the bar of Parliament as if he were a malefactor, and gave the humiliating testimony that he had sacrificed upwards of thirteen hundred soldiers and expended upwards of £3,000,000 in slaying 226 Americans, without any perceptible effect; and in view of that disclosure, Parliament was besought to abandon the attempt to collect the tribute money, by Edmund Burke and Charles James Fox, two of the most brilliant forensic debaters the world ever saw.

One hundred years ago the continental congress, sitting in Philadelphia, although it acknowledged the war to be an existing fact, and had appointed General Washington to take charge of it, was presumptuously waiting for a favorable turn of American affairs in Parliament, on the strength of deceptive assurances from

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1776, and was never heard of afterwards.—9. GOVERNOR MURRAY was born in Scotland in 1732; raised to the peerage as Earl of Dunmore, and sent out to Virginia as Governor in 1771; was a severe and ostentatious loyalist; dissolved the House of Burgesses for passing revolutionary resolves; was obliged to fly to his ships to escape indignation, in the fall of 1775; burnt Norfolk to punish Virginia January 1, 1776; was wounded by a splinter the following July; retired to Bermuda, and afterwards to England, where he died May 10, 1809, in the 78th year of his age.—10. GOVERNOR MARTIN was born in England in 1737; was sent out as Governor in 1774, to suppress the rebellion; fired a proclamation at the rebels, and fled to Parker's fleet in the harbor; lingered on and about that fleet to the close of the war, and then returned to England, and died there in July, 1786, in the 50th year of his age.— 11. GOVERNOR CAMPBELL was born in England in 1722; was Governor of Nova Scotia from '66 to '74, when he was transferred to South Carolina; like Murray and Martin fled to the shipping for refuge when the war broke out; mortally wounded in the attack on Fort Moultrie, and died of his wounds Sept. 5, 1778, in the 57th year of his age. —12. GOVERNOR WRIGHT was born in Charleston in 1710; was knighted and made Governor in 1772; fled from the colony at the outbreak of the war; returned again and resumed his government in 1779, but went to England with Cornwallis in 1781, and died there in 1786, in the 77th year of his age.

Europe, that Burke and Fox would compel that distinguished body to recede.

One hundred years ago the frequent arrivals of reinforcements and supplies in the harbor of Boston made it perfectly evident to General Washington, who was greatly in advance of Congress in sagacity, that the British Ministry was too tenacious of the pretended right of taxation, and too sour upon all denials of that right, ever to recede, and that there remained to the colonies, in their existing situations, no method of redress but the arbitrament of war.

One hundred years ago the famous siege of Boston, which held the regulars at bay six calendar months, was at a perilous crisis, probably unknown to the enemy, which tasked to its very utmost the skill, faith and fortitude of the Commander-in-Chief to bridge the danger in a manner to conceal it from the enemy, avert a panic, and preserve the lines intact until he should obtain relief. In the scriptural *patois* of the shoremen of the times, "General Washington was in the lion's den unbeknown to the lions." In more classic parlance, the sword of Damocles hung over his head "suspended by a hair."

When the General arrived at Cambridge, in July, he found there a fortuitous assemblage of about 15,000 men from the New England Provinces, divided into four distinct bodies, each with a leader of its own. Those from New Hampshire were under General Stark; those from Massachusetts were under General Ward; those from Connecticut were under the Cincinnatus of that war, who left his plow in the furrow, General Putnam; and those from Rhode Island Plantations were under General Greene. They were there in their sum-

mer, homespun working clothes, without overcoats, blankets, change of under-garments, discipline, commissariat, magazine, ammunition of any account, dependence for supplies other than voluntary contributions from the neighboring towns, organization or bond of union, other than the spur of excitement which brought them together. With very few exceptions, they knew literally nothing of the art, discipline, usages or hardships of war. In that condition they constituted all the army there was to maintain ten or twelve miles of earthworks and besiege a city of 17,000 inhabitants, and at least 12,000 of the best trained troops of Europe, on the peninsulas of Boston and Charlestown. They had been nominally adopted as continental troops by the Continental Congress; but they were too jealous of what they considered foreign dictation to change their relations to their respective colonies and commanders and be obligated, by honor or oath, to obey any superior authority. And he found them too short of cannon-powder to be able to return the enemy's fire, except by an occasional gun, while they were strengthening the lines with their spades. And although he dispatched messengers at once to New York and the Jerseys, and even to Ticonderoga, for powder, he obtained none of much account before he was admonished that his forces, weak as they were from indisposition to endure the hardships of the camp, were about to disband. At the end of September, nearly or quite one-half of the men he found there in July had gone back to their homes, so that after that date down to the end of December, his lines were as flimsy, as defences, as bulwarks of gauze.

Although he reported his distress confidentially, time and again, to members of the Continental Congress, it was not until the middle of October that a mortal soul of them came to his relief. And when, at that late day, the so-called Franklin Committee did come to his headquarters, they came empty-handed, and only with paper instructions to him, the General, and nobody else, in his nearly deserted camp, in his desperate extremity, to recruit a continental army if he could. When the Continental Congress sent him to the front, that body acted for a while as if it expected that he could do the rest of the work himself, without any supporting or supplemental aid. And that very wise and eminent committee talked and acted as if they thought him capable of creating an army out of nothing, and of providing for it by smiting a rock in his neighborhood for supplies.

And when, under those adverse and very discouraging circumstances, he attempted re-enlistments, he met with a legion of new perplexities, in the shape of demands for commissions by those incompetent to fill them — demands for bounties unauthorized by the Continental Congress — demands for good arms and good quarters, which he was unable to assure — refusals to enlist unless they previously knew their colonel and captain — refusals of men of one colony to serve under officers of another — and "such a dearth of public spirit and patriotism," to use his own words, as to keep his mind perpetually filled with apprehensions of disaster. By unremitted, night and day, and almost superhuman efforts he succeeded, during the months of November and December, in enlisting about 10,000

men to appear for muster on the first day of January; but while those months were wearing away, the gloom of his perilous situation hung over his mind like a funeral pall, as was disclosed in a confidential letter, of which the following is an extract, written to Colonel Reed, of Philadelphia, when all the members of his domestic and military family were asleep:

"To maintain this post against the power of the British troops for six months together without powder, and to have one army disbanded and another one raised within musket shot of a reinforced enemy is, as far as I have ever learned, without any parallel in history. If I shall be able to rise superior to this, and other existing difficulties, I shall religiously believe that the finger of Providence is in it, blinding the eyes of the enemy. For, surely, if we get well through this month, it must be from his lack of knowledge of our weakness. How much happier I should have been if I had taken my musket on my shoulder and entered the ranks, instead of accepting the command."

But during the wane of December he was relieved by degrees of the pall, by the appearance of the greater portion of the recruits, in winter clothing, for duty. So that one hundred years ago, when he was delivered from that peril by the arrival of fresh recruits for the continental service, General Washington had special occasion for a demonstration of gratitude for a most marvelous deliverance during that protracted struggle, and never since even approximated, except by the nation's marvelous deliverance from the perils of the winter of 1861. As each and every one of these particulars belong to the significance of the ceremony, I am anxious to impress them upon your minds before I introduce you to the ceremony itself. It will enable you to perceive that the ceremony was partly a demonstration of gratitude for a marvelous deliverance, partly an artifice of war to blind the enemy, and partly

intended as a stimulus to the soldiery and to the flagging patriotism of the colonists at home.

WHEN AND WHERE.

The event we commemorate occurred on Monday — a bright, serene and genial Monday, unruffled, the diaries say, "even by a breeze sufficient to sway the cockerel on the spire of the Hanover street church." That memorable Monday, I need not tell you, was the first day of January, then, as now, by common consent a public holiday. In New England, in those days, it was observed by nearly all the people by repairing, when they could, to their churches for thanksgiving and prayer. By all it was a special occasion for the interchange of civilities, freighted with friendly congratulations for their survival in health through the old year and kindly wishes for happiness during the new. To all who were not saddened by the peril of the war, it was the usual time of cheer.

The event occurred at Cambridge, then a mere hamlet, in close proximity to Boston. It occurred before the official residence of General Washington, in full view of the red walls of Harvard and of that primeval elm, yet standing, under whose umbrageous foliage he first took command of the army. Your histories inform you that two days before the battle of Bunker Hill the Continental Congress, then sitting in Philadelphia, appointed General Washington Commander-in-Chief of the army; that he left Philadelphia on horseback, with his aides and Major-Generals Lee and Schuyler, on the 21st of June, for his post of duty; that he reached the mansion of President Langdon, of Harvard, which had

been procured for his headquarters, in the afternoon of the 2d of July; and that, upon the following morning, when the patriot soldiery were drawn up on Cambridge Common, he rode with a numerous staff to the shade of that primeval, now historic elm, where he wheeled his white horse, drew his sword, and in the presence of the soldiery and a multitude of men, women and children, formally assumed the command. Your histories further inform you, that he was then a florid, blue-eyed, brown-haired, well proportioned figure, precisely six feet and two inches in height, and forty-three years of age; that he wore a black laced hat with a black cockade, a deep blue coat with buff facings, heavy gilt epaulettes, dark crimson sash, buff small clothes, highly polished boots with yellow spurs, and that his appearance and bearing were dignified and commanding. The critical Mrs. John Adams perceived in him "the gentleman and soldier agreeably combined." Desiring a position affording a better view of the situation, he soon afterward removed from the Langdon to the mansion now occupied by the poet Longfellow. Mrs. Washington went on there, with her carriage and servants, in November, so that he was comfortably situated to receive and entertain at the time of which I speak. For military reasons already indicated, the first day of '76 had been previously designated by orders for the organization of a continental army proper, and the inauguration of the flag. The exercises of the day, therefore, had been deliberately planned.

EXERCISES OF THE DAY.

General Washington was a churchman and Mrs. Washington was a churchwoman. At the hour of 10

o'clock, A. M., the General went with Mrs. Washington to morning prayers, at what was then known as the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Appleton's church — the place of public worship they usually attended, during their residence in Cambridge. At the hour of 11 o'clock, the General received his field officers and issued to them the requisite orders for the organization of the continental army. The Bunker Hill militiamen were provincial in character, and denied obligations to obey the Commander-in-Chief. At the hour of 12 o'clock, (meridian) precisely, when the hamlet of Cambridge was still — when all that was mortal of General Warren and two hundred and twenty-five other martyrs of Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill, were sleeping beneath a coverlet of crusted snow — when less than ten thousand fresh recruits were holding twice that number of British regulars at bay — when one immense and gorgeous royal standard was floating from a lofty staff on the summit of Bunker Hill, and thirty or forty smaller ones from as many mizzen peaks in Boston harbor; in the presence of the field and staff officers of the army, the members of the Legislature of Massachusetts, the trustees and faculty of Harvard, and an immense concourse of other spectators, the Rev. Abial Leonard, of General Putnam's brigade, invoked the favor of Heaven, and the Honorable Thomas Cushing and Robert Treat Paine, at General Washington's request, advanced to the halyards and hoisted to the head of a lofty staff, a graceful standard of red and white bars, prepared by the women of Cambridge, who cheered its ascension from the balcony, with the song of Miriam:

"Shout the glad tidings, for Israel is free."

There were no stars in the banner then, for the states they now represent were unborn. But Bishop Berkeley's Star of Empire shed its light upon the canvas from the azure above.

ANTIQUITY OF SUCH STANDARDS.

There is nothing novel in that standard except its composition. National and martial standards have high antiquity. They originated in the age of symbolic language, and have existed from time immemorial. The Hebrews had twelve of them when they escaped from bondage. Jason had them in his expedition for the Golden Fleece. Alexander and the Cæsars had them in all their campaigns. Constantine conquered with standards bearing the sign of the cross. Judah's lion, the fabulous unicorn, and the crosses of Saints Andrew and George had, for more than one generation, graced the standard of Great Britain; and union jacks, so called, were at that very moment fluttering at the peaks of our commercial marine. Each of the colonies had its distinctive ensign also.* By the direction of General Washington himself, the crosses of Saints Andrew and George (subsequently superseded by the stars) were left in the blue field to indicate fidelity still to the principles of the British constitution, trampled down

* NOTE.—The first rebel flag, of which history gives us any account, was hoisted in what is now the City Hall Park, in New York City, in November, 1765. It was red in color and hoisted to indicate resistance to the stamp act. The second one was hoisted in the same place, to indicate resistance to the landing of tea. It was at that flag raising, that Alexander Hamilton, then a student in King's College, made his first public speech. The third one was hoisted there March 6, 1775, to commemorate the Boston Massacre. The fourth one was raised in the Town of Poughkeepsie, March 21, 1775, to indicate support of the resolves of the Continental Congress. The fifth one was hoisted on the common, which is now the City Hall Park, on the 25th of June, 1775, in honor of General Washington, who arrived there on that day, on his way from Philadelphia to take command of the army at Cambridge. The sixth one was hoisted in Albany, on the 15th of July, 1775, in honor of the arrival there of Major General Philip Schuyler.

by the King, Ministry and Parliament in their attempts to tax the colonies without their consent. It would not have been at all in harmony with their general character, if any of those eminent patriots had cherished a particle of faith in the patronage of those saints, or in the smiles of any heathen goddess of liberty. But it was in perfect harmony with their general character to believe in the beautiful doctrine of angels — inspiring, ministering, protecting angels; and that they graced this scene with their invisible presence, and witnessed with delight the dedication of the flag. If any of them fell short of revering it as a sacred symbol of liberty, none of them fell short of voting it sublime.

WASHINGTON A MAN OF INSPIRATION.

General Washington was a man of inspiration. During all his trials and vicissitudes, from the hour he accepted his commission, at Philadelphia, to the hour he resigned it, at Annapolis, he felt himself upheld, moved and guided by an omnipotent hand. His majestic form appeared to many to be itself the very temple of devotion, if not the temple of divinity. "Upon that particular occasion," wrote Mrs. Adams to her husband, "there was a halo about his head, which reminded me (her) of Raphæl's portrait of the Savior." He appeared to her to be scarcely less than divine.

WASHINGTON A MAN OF CEREMONY.

General Washington was a man of ceremony. He belonged to a family of ceremony. He believed in ceremony, in its propriety, courtliness and dignity. And he had been noted for it in the church of which he was a member, in the chapter of which he was an officer,

and in the Congress to which he had been a delegate. He was ceremonious to his family, to his servants, and as Mr. Washington Park Custis once informed me, even to his horse. It was precisely in the line of his habits, therefore, to institute a solemn ceremony for the dedication of the flag.

FORMAL DEDICATION OF THE FLAG.

After the women (ladies were women then) concluded their song, and after a fervent prayer by President Langdon, that the Almighty would dispose the government of Great Britain to a right and reasonable reconciliation, that this part of the empire might be relieved of the calamities of a civil war, and Divine favor to the Commander-in-Chief and his army, and for the Divine blessing especially upon that proceeding, the General advanced to the base of the staff, lifted his eyes and hands, and in behalf of the United Colonies of North America, formally and solemnly pronounced the new standard to be the authorized symbol of the United Colonies and of the cause which the martyrs of Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill had sealed with their blood. It was then saluted with a salvo of thirteen speaking guns. According to Mrs. Adams, who witnessed the ceremony, it was the most heart moving spectacle ever seen in America. It excited the entire assemblage to the highest pitch of intensity. Gray haired men and gray haired women wept like children. The cheeks of all the beholders were drowned in tears. It was a scene, I dare say, which was never forgotten by those who beheld it, during the remainder of their lives.

ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND RESULTING EFFECT.

Symbols, although speechless, are often more eloquent than words. They have a conventional and generally a civic and legal significance. When they possess that character, they are documents recognized by the laws of nations. By those laws, well understood by civilians, that speechless canvas exalted that rebellion to the dignity of a revolution. It did not invest the United Colonies with the rights of belligerents; but it lifted the acting patriots above the level of treason. It did not import secession, however, except as a contingent event, depending upon the question whether Great Britain should adhere or recede. It imported enough, in short, to bring that vexatious and protracted controversy to a head, and by the logic of events, in six short months to cut the British Empire in twain. When, therefore, that document produced its intended fruit; when, at the end of six months, it wrought the resulting scission; when the United Colonies became the United States, entitled to position among the nations of the earth, the crosses were erased and the stars and stripes inserted to indicate the elements of the nation. History awards the credit of suggesting the stars in the place of the crosses to the Hon. Stephen Wendover, great uncle of Mr. John V. Wendover, of Auburn, and the suggestion has been preserved by the descendants of the author, in the following lines:

"No wonder Wendover of old
Suggested stripes and stars of gold,
For the true standard of the free;
For when our infant nation bled,
He saw the smoking streams of red,
And the blue banner overhead
With the white bars of purity."

With the insertion of the stars the composition became complete. It is not as venerable as the standards of the older nations; but what it lacks in age it more than compensates in glory. We delight to hail it now as the flag of Washington and the Revolution, hallowed with a myriad of tender and honored memories; as the flag of three subsequent wars, emblazoned with a thousand victories; as the flag of the brave; as the flag of the free; as the glorious star spangled banner of our Union.

"Flag of the free heart's hope and home,
By angel hands to valor given,
Thy stars have lit the welkin dome,
And all thy hues were born in heaven."

THE INAUGURATION BANQUET.

As most of you who are at all familiar with the customs of those days, among people of gentility, have doubtless anticipated, the inauguration was completed with a banquet. General Washington was a man of gentility. That, like his habit of ceremony, was a trait of his family, a feature of his character. It belonged to his rank of Virginian society. The customs of that rank had required him to entertain largely, at his board at Mount Vernon, where he had been eminently social, but never convivial. The dignity of the station seemed to him to demand the continuance of the same practice as Commander-in-Chief. As he served without pay, it was, of course, a heavy tax upon his purse. But he never allowed that consideration to stint either the number of his guests or the provisions for their entertainment. Colonel Reid, one of his military secretaries, left us the testimony that from the time of the arrival

of Mrs. Washington, in November, down to that holiday, there were but very few week-days when he did not have distinguished men and women, from one or more of the colonies, at dinner. Upon that occasion the table was laid for two hundred — for the members of the provincial Legislature of Massachusetts and representatives from others, for the faculty, clergy and municipal authorities of Cambridge, for all the commissioned officers of the new army, and for such of the ladies of their families as were in town. The repast was substantial, if not sumptuous. When the cloth was removed the General retired from the table, when, with the venerable Cincinnatus of the war in the chair, the guests enthusiastically toasted the host, the army, and the flag.

I have now performed all my duties as your guide to old Cambridge, and by showing you as well as I could, with some of its antecedents and surroundings, the stately, solemn and significant performance which the good people of that hamlet beheld there precisely one hundred years ago. To say that it was a great affair, or even to say, as Mr. Webster once did at a New England dinner, that it only fell short of the performance at Philadelphia on the subsequent fourth of July as the mission of John the Baptist fell short of the Advent, would be to employ expressions which underrate its significance. If the figure of the Advent is admissible for illustration of its relation to the performance at Philadelphia, the inauguration was in substance and effect the Advent itself. As I have already observed, General Washington was full six months in advance of the Continental Congress, as a body, in ripe-

ness for independence; and when he dedicated that flag to the cause of the martyrs of Concord, Lexington and Bunker Hill, under the peculiar circumstances of the case it is safe, I think, to say he meant nothing less than independence as its ultimate fruit. The fact bears no other rational interpretation.

THE EVENT DESERVES COMMEMORATION.

If you see the ceremony, my friends, as I seem to see it, if you estimate its meaning as I seem to estimate it, you cannot fail to perceive, as I clearly perceive, that when General Washington, with the full knowledge acquired on the spot, that General Howe was almost daily receiving reinforcements from home, resolved to hoist and dedicate that flag in the face of the enemy, he intended it to be precisely what it turned out to be, a bold and defiant and unqualified stand for independence. By all the light which subsequent events reflect upon it, it is as clear as a sunbeam not only that it was, but that it was the first decisive stand taken by anybody clothed with authority to act in the premises for a partition *nolens volens* of the British Empire. With that just estimate of that day's performance, we cannot too often recall it to our view. We should keep it fresh in our minds. We should engrave it on our memories. We should make it the frequent and familiar subject of our reflections by day and of our meditations at night. We should relate it to our children. We should incorporate it into our family traditions.

THE EVENT DEMANDS GRATITUDE FOR THE ENDOWMENT OF WASHINGTON IN HIS DAY AND SEWARD IN HIS.

And as it was the fruitage of the herculean and marvelous efforts of the Commander in-Chief, like those of our distinguished and lamented neighbor during the winter of 1861, to keep the republican cause and the continental union alive until succor should arrive, let us never fail to be grateful to Almighty God that he endowed General Washington in his time, and Senator Seward in his, with the wisdom to work out the most marvelous civil salvations the world ever knew. Outranking, as he clearly did, all the soldiers and sages of his time in stature, talent and grace, being the first in merit as the first in place, he was truly and completely all which Chief Justice Marshall styled him: "First in War, first in Peace, and first in the Hearts of his countrymen." Like the great general-in-chief of the Exodus, he was an envoy extraordinary of God. He was sent to deliver his people first, and ultimately, by the logic of events, all mankind from bondage.

Exalted Chief: in thy superior mind
What vast resource, what various talents joined!
Formed to command respect, esteem inspire,
Midst statesmen grave, or midst the social choir,
With equal skill the sword or pen to wield,
Alike in cabinet and martial field;
'Mid glittering courts or rural walks to please,
Polite with grandeur, dignified with ease;
How fade the glow-worm lustres of a crown
Before the splendors of thy high renown!
On base far different from the conqueror's claim
Rests the unsullied column of thy fame;
His on the woes of millions proudly based,
With blood cemented and with tears defaced;
Thine on a Nation's welfare, fixed, sublime,
By Freedom strengthened and revered by Time.

THE POLICY HAD A GOODLY ENDING.

In the accounts of the crusades of the twelfth century to recover the Holy Shrines from the infidels, it is related that the banners and armor of some of the followers of the surnamed Cœur de Leon were inscribed, in the imperfect dialect of the ancient Britons, with a maxim or motto which, according to Chaucer, ran, in the Anglo-Saxon of the period, as follows:

"Noe goode comes of weal intending,
Ye fix'd lawes of Heven forefending,
Onless strong blowes withe valour blending
Rewardes intentes withe goodlie ending." *

From this eligible standpoint I think we of this generation are able to perceive that the fixed laws of Heaven, as well as the ordinances of nature preventing, no good whatever would have ensued from the numerous well intended, well considered and well composed resolves of the Continental Congress, if the Commander-in-Chief in the field had not, by that bold stroke of timely military sagacity, "let slip the dogs of war," and thereby precipitated the "goodly ending." The "intendings" of the Continental Congress, and the hundred resolves of the Continental Congress were good, very good indeed; but they were utterly nuga-

* The first line of this maxim or motto, in the language of the ancient Britons, on the ribbon appended to this armorial design, with the design itself, impressed on red sealing wax, appearing to have been once attached to a written document or letter, and to have been made with a large watch seal one hundred years ago, has been preserved as a choice relic of antiquity by some of the descendants of the paternal great-great-grandfather of the speaker, who was a contemporary of, and a civil magistrate under Gov. Trumbull, when the flag was launched at Cambridge. It is believed to have been an impression from his watch seal, and to bear a maxim or motto which he, in his life time, deemed pertinent to the exigencies of the early part of Revolutionary war.

tory as war measures, until General Washington moved on the enemy's works. It was his movements on Dorchester Heights which drove the enemy from Boston, and by a long line of sequences culminated in the ending at Yorktown. The obvious moral of the maxim is, that the value of good intentions, in revolutions as in other reformatory movements, is demonstrable only by their fruits.

THE SUBJECT PROLIFIC OF SUGGESTIONS.

The subject, my friends, is a vast one; and when considered in all its aspects is very prolific of suggestions. Indeed, their name is legion. But my time and your patience will not permit me to mention more than three. For the rest of my hour I will try to entertain you with them. These suggestions are :

1. The probable consequences of an assault during that defenseless period, of the American lines.

2. The certain consequences which ensued from their maintenance until Washington obtained forces with which to protect them.

3. The important work which devolves upon our successors during the century upon which we now enter.

Upon the first point, candor requires me to premise that to a certain extent that consequence rests and must forever rest in conjecture. Nevertheless, logicians, scientists, philosophers, statesmen and divines agree that there are several grades of conjecture, and that that grade which has the best foundation in reason makes the nearest approach to certainty. That grade in a given case which approaches nearest to the absolute is usually denominated moral certainty. By the light of the reasons for the opinion which history affords,

I am morally certain that had General Howe advanced upon our lines and forces during the last three months of 1775, with his twenty thousand regulars, he would have compelled an unconditional surrender — as complete a surrender of *personnel* and *materiel* as General Burgoyne was compelled to make the following year at Saratoga. By those who remember anything of the treatment of Ethan Allen and the Long Island prisoners in that war, and of the Canadian and Irish revolutionists since, by the British Government, the consequences of such a surrender may be easily calculated. Washington and his generals, Lee, Putnam, Gates, Greene, Knox and Stark, and all the rank and file of their commands, would have been considered and treated as insurgent prisoners. Being insurgent prisoners, and not ordinary prisoners of war, they would have been transported to England for trial as traitors; and those who were not led to a scaffold would have been confined in prisons or prison ships, or sent to the penal colonies until the insurrectionary danger was believed to be over. As they had not then advanced far enough in any attempt to form a new government to be entitled by the laws of nations to the rights of belligerents, they would have had no claim to be returned as prisoners of war. They would have been in the criminal attitude of rebel traitors, taken in the overt act of high treason, with arms in hand, and would have been unentitled to mercy. But it is enough for the occasion, to say that they would have been *hors du combat* — out of the military service of the colonies as long as any insurrectionary trouble either did, or was supposed to impend. The small detachments, then enfeebled by

small pox, and snow-bound in Canada, would have shared a similar fate.

Whether the struggle would have been revived by the succeeding or by some succeeding generations, or whether by the change of policy in respect to the American colonies, which subsequently occurred in the British Cabinet and Parliament, the colonists would have been appeased for the time, or to the present hour, are problems which must forever rest in conjecture. But in the Providence of God, the lion did not pounce; the sword did not fall; the army was not compelled to surrender; but, with auxiliary aid, ultimately compelled the enemy to surrender instead, leaving to us the privilege to-day of turning from that unpleasant theme to the contemplation of some of the fruits of the wisdom which effected that deliverance.

THE CERTAIN CONSEQUENCES WHICH ENSUED.

I have endeavored to demonstrate to your satisfaction that our national independence hinged upon the main tenance of those lines. It appears to me that nearly everything else we enjoy, except the canopy, footstool and elements, has resulted from that independence. Independence, mental and moral, which followed from the political — independence, in its broadest sense, was the American Abraham who begat Isaac, who begat Jacob, who begat Judah and his brethren. It commanded the Star of Empire, which stood over the inauguration of our flag at Cambridge, to move like a pillar of fire athwart the continent. It broke the spell of the ages. It turned night into day. It awoke the sleepers. It electrified the wakers. It set the clock-work of civilization in motion. It took Arkwright's burring

machine and converted it into Whitney's cotton gin. It took Watts' old tea kettle and converted it into the mighty behemoth which strides the continent, and the mightier leviathan which plows the oceans. It took Guttenberg's clumsy printing stamp and converted it into Hoe's lightning press, whose impressions outnumber the seconds. It took Franklin's kite string and Sturgeon's electro magnet and converted them into a postal messenger for the nations. It took our grandmother's sewing and knitting pins and converted them into the effective sewing and knitting machines now in use, for the construction of garments and hosiery. It took the blunderbuss, styled a cannon, in the battle of Crecey and converted it into the terrific Rodney's which pierced the Alabama, and the greater Swamp Angel which shelled the City of Charlestown. It took the bungling English fusee and converted it into the projectors, with which the American rifle team achieved their honors at Dollymount. It took the Syrian sickle, which cut the pottage which Esau accepted for his birthright, and converted it into the wonderful harvesters manufactured by David M. Osborne and his associates, with which the husbandmen of both hemispheres now gather and garner their cereal grains. And it has produced thousands, if not millions of similar improvements, to lighten the labor and promote the comfort and happiness of our people. Like the sun in our solar system, it has been itself a luminary whose prolific radiance fell upon the country and made everything grow. It made our domain grow from 750,530 to 3,515,740 square miles. It made our population grow from a little over 2,000,000 to over 40,000,000 of souls.

It made our organized communities grow from 13 unthrifty colonies to 38 thrifty states, inclusive of Colorado, and 8 large candidates for states, on probation now as territories. It made our schools of all kinds grow from less than 2,000 to over 500,000. It made our churches grow from 950 to 74,450. It made the number of newspapers and periodicals grow from 154 to 8,154. It made the number of miles of internal canals grow from nothing worthy of mention to 3,184. It made our exports and imports grow from an annual average of $6,134,000 each, before the revolution, to to $583,442,711 of exports, and $533,005,436 of imports. It made the number of postoffices grow from 209 to 35,547, and the number of miles of postage route, from 5,642 to 277,873. It put into daily operation in the United States 54,672 miles of railroads; 62,642 miles of merchant express; 120,249 miles of electro magnetic telegraph, and 280,000 miles of telegraphic wires — enough, if drawn out in one continuous line, to more than twice encircle the globe with rails and more than ten times with wires. But I must not fatigue you with figures. Our Patent Office has grown from the model of Whitney's cotton gin to be a vast museum of inventive genius. The results of that genius are manifest in a thousand ways, in the abridgment and perfection of human labor. The application of the useful arts as motors of progress are prominently indicated by the various applications of steam to locomotion, navigation and manufactures, of electricity and magnetism to the production of mechanical motion, of the electro magnetic telegraph to the registration of astronomical phenomena. And they are still more

familiarly indicated by the wonderful advancement and apparent perfection in photography. And we have bound our states together by the metallic bonds of railroads, telegraphs and bridges, which are stronger than the constitution itself.

One hundred years ago the single achievement of Franklin constituted our only feather in the line of original discovery. During the century, our men of science have not only explored the field of original research, but greatly enlarged it. They have made valuable discoveries in geography, surface and subterranean topography, natural history, chemistry, lithography, telegraphy, meteorology, geology, mineralogy, paleontology, electro magnetism, photography, antiquistic philology and astronomy, and found, in the process, a bed for an ocean cable and several hitherto unknown comets and stars. Our chemists and astronomers and other specialists rank with the first in the world.

And notwithstanding the several demoralizations resulting from our recent civil war, (which I hope will prove to be temporary,) we have advanced very greatly, as a people, in education, benevolence and religion. We have a multitude of common schools, academies, seminaries, colleges, for females as well as males, and churches in every settled part of the land, with well appointed teachers, preceptors, professors and divines to attend them. We have institutions for the truant, the idiotic, the insane, the inebriate, the blind, the deaf, the dumb, and comfortable public homes for the orphan and friendless. Schools and churches were not only cotemporaneous affairs at the commencement of our settlements, but, following the primitive examples, they

have continued to be cotemporaneous ever since. They are the characteristics of all our settlements, both the old and the new. And what is more, they have been and are still peculiarly and specially American, peculiarly and specially our own.

"On other shores, above their moldering towns,
In sullen pomp, the tall cathedral frowns;
Simple and frail our lowly temples throw
Their slender shadows on the paths below.

"Scarce steal the winds which sweep the woodman's tracks,
The larch's perfume from the settler's axe,
Ere like a vision of the morning air
His slight fram'd steeple marks the house of prayer.

"Yet Faith's pure hymn beneath its shelter rude,
Breathes out as sweetly to the tangled wood,
As where the rays through blazing oriels pour
On marble shaft and tesselated floor."

Independence, in short, according to my philosophy, was the talismanic wand which beckoned the colonial infants out of their cradles, reared them to stalwart manhood, endowed them with healthful moral, industrial and commercial activities, bound them together into constitutional union, and introduced them to the world at large as a nation of the first class in wealth, character and power, where by the multiplication of their number and the increase of their domain to the Pacific Ocean, they present at this centennial jubilee, to angels and to men, the sublime and glorious spectacle of a nation of forty millions of freemen, HAPPY BEYOND ANY OTHER PEOPLE, AND AT PEACE WITH ALL MANKIND. The sun in its course does not shine upon another spectacle like this. Ours is not the greatest nation in population and domain, for China, Russia and Great Britain are greater; but in all the essentials for intelli-

gent and comfortable living, and facilities for preparation for the life to come, ours is, beyond all question, the greatest nation under the sun. It is not only at the head of this continent, but at the head of the world.

With such wonderful and delightful results have the people of this young republic exhausted the first round century of its destiny. They have fairly earned the right to rejoice to-day as no other people can. But while they rejoice—while we, my neighbors, as a constituent part of them, rejoice to-day as we may, by fairly earned right, let us be careful all the while not to drop into the fatal error of the ancient Romans and the more modern Bourbons, that our national work is done. To use the figure of Bishop Berkeley, we have only acted the first scene in the drama. Our work is only fairly begun. We open the pages of the second scene to-day, and give out the parts for our children and successors to perform.

"Time's noblest offspring is the last."

LET US STUDY OUR RESPECTIVE PARTS.

Let us pause a moment at this centennial milestone to study our respective parts. To do this with understanding let us, in the first place, endeavor to fathom the will of the Creator and the deep designs of his Providence, and accept with deferential respect whatever he reveals to us. Let us scan the map of our great country as it lies to-day between the oceans, as if designed by Providence to be the grand union point between the old civilizations and the new. Let us re-peruse the history of our young republic, analyze its facts and endeavor to extract its philosophy. Our body politic, with all its apparent vigor has been recently un-

der the hands of a surgeon. It had an ugly cancer in its side which imperiled its life, one which it became necessary to remove. The operation saved its life but it left a wound. The surgeon left so many roots behind that it has been a difficult sore to heal. And it was torn open so often by the nurses in its early stages as to have been greatly inflamed. The healing, as all know, was greatly delayed. But a cicatrix is now forming; and with suitable care the wound will soon be healed and the body politic will soon be presentable to the nations.* As I understand the will of the Creator, it is now our first and paramount and immediate duty to heal our nation of slavery, perfect its civil and religious institutions, and standing as we do the observed of all observers, to be all and precisely what we profess to be, a commanding example to the nations.

As I understand the will of the Creator, it is his pleasure that the present generation of living men—that we who are here while we live, and our children and successors after we die—that we and they make it our and their paramount work so to perfect every department of our government and its supporting institutions as to demonstrate to the world by example, as well as by pre-

* And it may not be disguised from ourselves, if we could conceal it from the nations, that the scalpel left in the body politic a fearful amount of acrid treason, and kindred ailments, which are every day developing themselves in forms of the most astounding viciousness, wickedness, villainy and crime. The war not only cheapened virtue and honesty, in high places as well as low, but it cheapened the value of life. Even now crime of every conceivable enormity is holding high carnival. What Macauley styles the "canker of war" ate deeply into the very heart of the nation. Demoralization is almost universal. Our country was doomed to pass not only through the ordeal of a terrible civil war, in order to be rid of negro slavery, but if possible a severer ordeal of public and private crimes. We are in the midst of that ordeal now; God alone knows when the trial will end. But the optimists assure us that when our nation shall have expiated its guilt; when it shall have been sufficiently reproved for the terrible crime of keeping 4,000,000 of human beings, with souls to be saved, a century in bondage, our nation will emerge from the fire regenerated, and disenthralled from the cancers and cankers of the war, as well as from the slavery which was its provoking, primary cause.

cept, the feasibility of popular government; that under proper conditions there may not only be security of person and property, but provision for the maintenance of education, order and good morals, and for the general diffusion of such knowledge as will carry all the branches of culture to their highest perfection, by means of institutions founded upon republican principles. By steam and the electro-telegraph, and the improvements resulting from their discovery, we have advanced into the immediate neighborhood of the great powers of Europe and Asia, where the aristocratic and despotic elements prevail. We have entered the charmed circle as the neighbor of them all. We are every day, perhaps unconsciously, resolving the great problem of the re-action of democracy upon the aristocracy and despotism of both of those civilizations.

Between these new neighbors and ourselves there is no political connection. They adhere to their systems yet, as we adhere to ours. But their interests are similar to ours and often the same. Commercial interests are mingling together all over the world. General intelligence is becoming common to all nations; and the tone of sentiment which formerly prevailed only in circles of the learned, is now rapidly reaching the masses of average people. In matters of taste, science and judicial administration, we think and act very much alike. And now that steam and electricity have brought countries so much nearer together, the people of one nation seem to talk to those of another nation upon political as upon other subjects. And as the press of those nations is emerging from the surveillance of censors more and more every year, the advantages of our free govern-

ment are nearly everywhere the subject of discussion. This recent entrance of ours, by steam and the electro-telegraph, into the very midst of those old civilizations has imposed upon us new duties and responsibilities. It increases and hastens our obligations, as the central Light-House, to show to them, and that too as soon as possible, that government founded upon the popular voice, for a large country as well as a small one, in which life and property shall be secure, honesty and virtue cultivated, the arts and sciences encouraged, and all forms of industry reasonably compensated, is entirely practicable.

This high missionary duty has been rendered all the more imperative upon our successors, by the fact that during the century gone, our nation has shifted its political center and its maratime front. At first, and for nearly half a century, the center of power was Washington City, in the center of the settled selvage, which constituted our maratime front, between the mouths of the St. Croix and the Mississippi. For more than half a century our nation faced Europe, and the people looked to Europe chiefly for a market for their surplus products. And during all that period, and longer, the politicians of the Atlantic states controlled the federal government. During the last five and twenty years a large majority of the population have dwelt either in or west of the Mississippi basin. The geographical center has been shifted from Washington City to Kansas City, and the political center to St. Louis. And during that period Western politicians, Republicans particularly, have been quite conscious of, and some of them very ready to assert their power. I refer to the fact only for

illustration. By the settlement of California, Oregon and Washington, and the recent purchase of Alaska; by the construction of the Pacific Railroad; by Mr. Seward's commercial treaty with China; and by the immense volume of travel, transportation and commerce which have resulted therefrom, our nation now faces Asia.

The Star of Empire, which stood over our flag at Cambridge one hundred years ago, beckoned the column of emigration, and agricultural and other improvements westward and westward and westward, until at the end of the century it has faced the nation completely about. It rides into the second century, therefore, as the morning sun to China and Japan; and their numerous millions of semi-civilized inhabitants are at this moment hailing us as the angels of a better civilization — the harbingers of a better faith. The protracted battle for our commercial supremacy on the Pacific Ocean has been fought and won. Our people and the succeeding generation and generations have only to go forward and improve it. The way is now open for exportation of agricultural, mineral and mechanical productions to 850,000,000 of people, dwelling in China, Japan, Eastern Russia and India; and upon the Sandwich, Celebes and Phillipine Islands; Borneo, Java and Sumatra; and for return cargoes direct, (not, as heretofore, by London) of their choicest teas, silks, cashmeres, thibets, furs, gums, dye stuffs and spices.

Those of us upon this platform are too far advanced in life to be able whilst we live to do very much ourselves towards making this needful demonstration to the nations, or towards improving the new and inviting

opportunities for commerce with, and mission work among our Chinese, Japanese and East Indian neighbors. But it is as clear to me as the sunbeams, that such is the revealed mission and interest of the present generation and of the generations to come.

A WORD RESPECTING OUR DESTINY.

I do not pretend to be endowed with any prescience beyond that which I have derived from observation and experience, in a life not now short, and from the inexorable logic of events.

> "'Tis the sunset of life gives me mystical lore,
> Coming events cast their shadows before."

Yet you will allow me, I know, to leave a few predictions on record, to be remembered by your children and mine, when I shall be asleep on Fort Hill. By the aid of that observation, experience and logic, I seem to be able to peer a little into the future and to discern unmistakable indications of a prosperous and glorious future. I seem to discern that it will be the mission of our people, during the century upon which we now enter, among other things, to astonish the world with myriads of hitherto unthought of inventions; to perfect our government, and its civil, literary and religious institutions; to convert our unoccupied land in the West into productive, agricultural and pastoral farms, embellished with thrifty cities and villages; to swell our population to at least two hundred millions; to multiply steamers and commerce upon the Pacific Ocean; to rush across that peaceful ocean highway to the rescue and reclamation of the people beyond; to arouse the slumber of a hundred centuries; to set the principles of

self-government at work; to establish a new order in human affairs; to refresh superannuated nations with a new civilization; and ultimately in the future, near or remote, to verify the beautiful anticipations of the prescient Virgil of the American Revolution:

"As when the asterial blaze o'er Bethlehem stood,
Which marked the birthplace of the incarnate God.
When eastern Magi the heavenly splendor viewed,
And numerous throngs the wondrous sign pursued.
So Eastern Kings shall view the unclouded day,
Observe our star which streaks its golden way.
That signal spoke a Savior's humble birth,
This speaks his long and glorious reign on earth.
With science crowned shall peace and virtue shine,
And true religion beam a light divine.
Here the pure church descending from her God,
Shall fix on earth her long and last abode,
Her opening courts in dazzling glory blaze,
Her walls salvation and her portals praise."

And thus, by enterprise, perseverance, patience and fortitude, the characteristic virtues of Washington, by slow but sure degrees, in God's appointed way and time, the American people may be reasonably expected to work out the civilization and christianization of the world.

With this feeble tribute to Washington and the flag, and these faint predictions of the future, I bring my address to a close by once more commending the event we commemorate to-day to our children and our children's children, as being eminently worthy, for the reasons I have given, to descend with their choicest national and family traditions to the end of time.

THE BENEDICTION.

At the conclusion of Judge Hall's remarks, the assembly inside the Court House was dismissed with a benediction, pronounced by Chaplain, the Rev. EDWARD B. TUTTLE, of the army.

HOISTING AND SALUTATION OF THE FLAG.

The meeting then adjourned to the area in front of the Court House, where the lofty flag staff stands, to witness the ceremony of hoisting to its summit and saluting the National flag, in exact imitation of the manner of its hoisting and salutation at the time it was dedicated a century ago. The emblem was hoisted by Comrades Shapley and Kirkpatrick of the Veteran's Post, and when at half mast it was saluted by one gun and the song of the "Star Spangled Banner," by the quartette. At the signal of a second gun, the flag was hoisted to the summit and saluted by eleven additional "speaking" guns, making thirteen in all — the full symbol of the thirteen original states, and the same number of stripes in the flag.

During this ceremonial the streets and sidewalks in front of the Court House were densely crowded by thousands of spectators, who appeared to be deeply interested in the impressive ceremonies, and at 12:30 the vast populace dispersed to their several homes.

Thus it will be perceived by our friends abroad, that the neighbors of our late highly distinguished citizen, William Henry Seward, remembered his admonitions in relation to liberty, and did not forget to do precisely what he would have advised them to do had he been among the living.—[*Ed. Auburn Advertiser.*]

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